(b) if so, the details of the latest position, post-wise;

(c) whether besides making new appointments to some posts in the subordinate departments and undertakings of the Ministry, the employees of various categories already working in these offices have been given promotion during the last three years;

(d) if so, the year-wise details of appointments made to various posts and promotions given to employees of various categories during the above period;

(e) whether the appointment of Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe candidate is in accordance with the reservation quota and Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees already working in these Offices have been promoted in accordance with the reservation quota; and

(f) the action being taken by the Ministry to fill the reserved posts of various categories lying vacant at present and to give promotion to Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe employees in accordance with the reservation quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (f). Action is under way to fill up the vacant posts reserved for SCs/STs through Special Recruitment Drives. Other details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[English]

Tarapur Power Plant

3756. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether project report in respect of Atomic Energy Project Phase III and IV at Tarapur was submitted to the Government in 1994;

(b) if so, the present stage of the project;

(c) the reasons for delay in implementing the project; and

(d) the period likely to be taken for completion and expected yield from the project after completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c). The project financial sanction for two units of 500 MW nuclear and power project at Tarapur was accorded by the Government in January 1991. Major equipments for the project have already been procured and the infrastructure work is also nearly complete. However, construction of the main plant civil works could not be started so far due to resource constraints.

(d) From the date of commencement of the main plant construction, each of the units will take about eight and half years to complete.

[Translation]

Infrastructural Facilities

3757. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any project is under consideration for expansion of infrastructural facilities and public amenities in six major cities of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any negotiation has been held with some international agencies to get funds for this project; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be accorded approval and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b). No project for expansion of infrastructural facilities and public amenities in six major cities of Rajasthan is under consideration at present. However, based on the request from the Government of Rajasthan for seeking funding from the Asian Development Bank for infrastructural development in Ajmer, Bikaner, Kota, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur, an agreement has been signed with the Asian Development Bank for the conduct of feasibility study.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Since possibility of Asian Development Bank providing assistance will depend upon the outcome of the Technical Assistance study, it is not possible to indicate any time frame regarding availability of ADB funding at this point of time.

[English]

Rural Consumption on Standards

3758. SHRI SANAT KUMAN MANDAL : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news-item captioned "Changing patterns in rural consumption standards" appearing in the 'Hindu Business Line' New Delhi dated November 21, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the reasons for the decline in the higher deciles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.